

CLAIMS (Specification designated to end with claims).

We claim:

1. A mechanical apparatus to allow cleaning of fish over the side of most boats which folds flat for storage when not in use.
2. The apparatus opens to provide a secured "box" type trough with collapsible ends and sides as a one piece assembly comprised of end, front and back pieces, a gunnel edge support flange and hinge pins.
3. The apparatus which when secured by straps to the side of a boat provides a cleaning apparatus (station) which allows cleaning of fish with drainage away from the side of the boat. The tray (trough) which holds fish and normal cleaning tools outside of the boat, while operating as a temporary integral part of the boat is easily removed and stored when not in use, folding to a flat configuration of the integrally hinged components without disassembly and opened for use without any re-assembly required. The intended, folded configuration is with the center of the end hinges folded outwards for the flattest configuration.
4. The apparatus hinge components are designed as an integral part of the components. This represents the preferred method of manufacture, although commercially produced hinges welded in place could be used to accomplish manufacturing a reasonably similar in functionality. We claim both designs as being of the same idea, with the integral hinge design being the preferred method of embodiment and of the Big Water Company invention design.
5. The hinge components are designed to allow drainage of blood, water and small viscera through the hinge notches.
6. The unit is made of .080 gauge aluminum for the 7 flat stock pieces, but is not limited to this gauge or type of material for the invention idea. (Plastic injection molded fabrication may be a feasible substitution for the aluminum fabrication and alternatives such as this are considered part of the invention idea for this apparatus). Suitable Stainless Steel sheet metal may be substituted for the .080 gauge aluminum for a more durable (more expensive-deluxe) version within the scope of this invention idea.

Invention: Strong Away Collapsible Fish Cleaner
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7. The hinges are made of 3/16 stainless steel rod stock but is not limited to this gauge or type of material for the invention idea.
8. The means of making the invention [0001-0021] and means of use [0022-0029] are considered an integral part of these claims of invention.
9. Modifications in design and variations upon this can obviously be made on this present invention in light of the above teachings. These details in the above description illustrate some preferred embodiments and should not be construed as a limitation on the scope of the invention.